THE

North-China Herald.

Vol. IV., No. 194. SHANGHAI, SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 1854. Price, Sp. Drs. 15 ₩ Annum.

INTIMATIONS.

NOTICE.

In the Estate of the late Dr. James Irons of Woosung.

H. B. M.'s Consul, is enabled to announce a dividend of 5 ₩ °/₀ on the claims filed in the above Estate, and all parties interested in the same are hereby required to make immediate application at H. B. M.'s Consulate.

RUTHERFORD ALCOCK,
Consul.

British Consulate, Shanghae,
21st March, 1854.

SHIPPING.

NOTICE.

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

In referrence to the announcement below of our increase in the rates of Passage Money which took effect in Hongkong on the 16th Instant, Notice is hereby given that on *and after this date, and until further notice*, the Rates of Passage Money from *Shanghae* and *Woosung* to *Hongkong* will be also increased as follows, viz:—

Description of Accommodation from Shanghae, and Woosung to Hongkong.

A Lady or a Gentleman travelling singly,—
occupying a Berth in one of the General Cabins, ... $120

Children with their Parents,—
of 3 Years and under 10 Years of age,.. $75
a Child under 3 Years of age, *(no berth provided,)* .... *Free.*

Servants of First-class Passengers,—
European, ... $60
Native, ... $30
Second-class Passengers, ... $80
Third-class Passengers, *(on Deck)* $40

Payment to be made in Shanghae *Dollars precious to Embarkation.*

For further particulars, apply to

E. WARDEN, *Agent.*

Peninsular & Oriental
Steam Navigation Company's Office,
Shanghai, 25th February, 1854.

NOTICE.

The Peninsular & Oriental Steam Navigation Company regret to announce, that in consequence of the great increase in the Price of Coals, and in other items of Expenditure connected with the Navigation of their Steamers, they have been compelled to recur to Charges for Passage Money similar to those existing previous to the commencement of last year, when it will be remembered a considerable Reduction was made.

The Company trust that the circumstances which have obliged them to adopt this measure will not be of long duration; but in the meantime, *on and after this date, and until further notice*, the Fares from *Hongkong* to *Southampton*, including the Expense of Transit through Egypt, will be as follows:—

A Lady or a Gentleman travelling singly,—
occupying a Berth in one of the General Cabins, ... $720

A Married couple,—
occupying a Reserved Private Cabin,.... $1,680

Children with their Parents,—
of 3 Years and under 10 Years of age,... $432
a Child under 3 Years of Age, *(no berth provided,)* .... *Free.*

Servants of First-class Passengers,—
European, ... $360
Native, ... $288

The Rates of Passage to *Marseilles* and the intermediate Ports on the *Homeward route*, will also be proportionately increased *on and after this day.*

Payment to be made in Hongkong in Spanish *Dollars.*

For further particulars, apply to

ROBERT S. WALKER,
Superintendent.

Peninsular & Oriental
Steam Navigation Company's Office.
Hongkong, 16th February, 1854.

NOTICES OF FIRMS.

NOTICE.

The interest and responsibility of Mr. J. MACKRILL SMITH, in our Firm ceased on the 31st ultimo.

SMITH, KING & Co.

Shanghae, January 4th, 1854.

NOTICE.

Mr. GEO. GRISWOLD GRAY, is authorized to sign our Name by Procuration.

RUSSELL & Co.

Shanghae, January 1st, 1854.

NOTICE.

The Interest and Responsibility of Mr. Oliver Everett Roberts, in our Firm at *Canton* and *Shanghae*, ceased on the 30th of June last.

WETMORE & Co.

Shanghae, 31st December, 1853.

NOTICE.

The Business conducted by the undersigned will in future be carried on under the style of JAS. BOWMAN & Co.

JAS. BOWMAN.

Shanghai, 1st July, 1853.

NOTICE.

The Interest and Responsibility of the late Mr. WILLIAM HENRY WARDLEY in our Firm, terminated on the 29*th of September last.*

W. H. WARDLEY & Co.

Canton, 12th November, 1853.

With reference to the above Advertisement, the business of the House will be conducted as before by Mr. D. JOHNSON, under the same Name, which Mr. F. B. JOHNSON is authorized to sign.

Mr. JAMES BOWMAN will sign for us in *Shanghae* by Procuration.

W. H. WARDLEY & Co.

Canton, 12th November, 1853.

NOTICES OF FIRMS.

NOTICE.

Mr. REUBEN DAVID SASSOON has this day been admitted a Partner in our Firms here, and at *Shanghae.*

DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.

Canton, 31st March, 1854.

NOTICE.

We hereby give notice that the business hitherto conducted by us in *Canton*, will from this date be carried on here.

Mr. JAMES LAWRENCE MAN and Mr. WILLIAM GUNSTON HOWELL, are severally authorized to sign our Name.

GEORGE BARNET & Co.

Shanghai, 31st March, 1854.

NOTICE

Is hereby given, that the Copartnership heretofore subsisting between Yorick Jones Murrow and James Stephenson under the Style or Firm of MURROW, STEPHENSON & Co., has been this day dissolved. The undersigned, assuming the responsibility of the said Firm, will in future conduct the business on his own account and in his own name,

Y. J. MURROW.

Hongkong, 2d January, 1854.

INSURANCES.

SUN FIRE OFFICE, LONDON.
Established 1710.

Managers,

WILLIAM R. HAMILTON, Esq., *Chairman and Treasurer.*
CHARLES B. FORD, Esq., *Deputy-Chairman.*
Rt. Hon. WILLIAM BERESFORD, *M.P.*
The Hon. P. PLEYDELL BOUVERIE.
HARRY CHESTER, Esq.
SAMUEL PEPYS COCKERELL, Esq.
RAIKES CURRIE, Esq., *M.P.*
JOHN DRUMMOND, Esq.
RUSSELL ELLICE, Esq.
WILLIAM FRANKS, Esq.
Captain HENRY G. HAMILTON, *R.N.*
JOSEPH HOARE, Esq.
FELIX LADBROKE, Esq.
H. F. SHAW LEFEVRE, Esq.
HENRY LITTLEDALE, Esq.
GEORGE WARDE NORMAN, Esq
BRICE PEARSE, Esq.
CHARLES RICHARD POLE, Esq.
LAMBERT POLE, Esq.
CHARLES RANKEN, Esq.
HENRY RICH, Esq., *M.P.*
JOHN SHEPHERD, Esq.
HENRY STUART, Esq., *M.P.*
C. GEORGE THORNTON, Esq.

The Managers of the SUN FIRE OFFICE, LONDON, beg to inform the Foreign Residents at *Hongkong*, *Canton*, and *Shanghae*, that they have constituted and appointed the undersigned as their Attornies to issue Policies of Insurance against FIRE on BUILDINGS, GOODS, MERCHANDIZE, and other PROPERTY at those places.

Full particulars of Rates, &c., may be obtained on application to

LINDSAY & Co.,
China, August 1852. *Agents in China.*

HONGKONG MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The undersigned are prepared to grant Policies on behalf of the HONGKONG INSURANCE COMPANY, payable in *Shanghae, Hongkong, Canton, Singapore, Calcutta, Madras, Bombay* and *London.*

LINDSAY & Co.

Shanghae, 1852.

GLOBE INSURANCE,
CORNHILL AND PALL-MALL, LONDON.
Established 1803.
Empowered by Special Acts of Parliament.

Directors.

JAMES W. FRESHFIELD, Esq., M.P., F.R.S., *Chairman.*
FOWLER NEWSAM, Esq., *Deputy-Chairman.*
GEORGE CARR GLYN, Esq., M.P., *Treasurer.*
HENRY ALEXANDER, Esq.
JOHN S. BROWNRIGG, Esq.
BOYCE COMBE, Esq.
THOMAS M. COOMBS, Esq.
WILLIAM DENT, Esq.
EDWARD GOLDSMID, Esq.
Sir I. L. GOLDSMID, Bart F.R.S.
ROBERT HAWTHORN, Esq.
JOHN HODGSON, Esq.
RICHARD LAMBERT JONES, Esq.
ROBERT LOCKE, Esq.
BOYD MILLER, Esq.
SHEFFIELD NEAVE, Esq.
WILLIAM PHILLIMORE, Esq.
W. H. C. PLOWDEN, Esq., M.P.
ROBERT SAUNDERS Esq.
Sir WALTER STIRLING, Bart.
WILLIAM THOMPSON, Esq., Ald., M.P.
WILLIAM TITE, Esq. F.R.S.
HENRY J. WHEELER, Esq.
JOSIAH WILSON, Esq.
BENJAMIN G. WINDUS, Esq.
WILLIAM NEWMARCH, *Secretary.*

FOR

FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE, AND ANNUITIES,
AND FOR THE PURCHASE OF REVERSIONS AND LIFE CONTINGENCIES.

Capital:—*ONE-MILLION Sterling.*

The Whole Paid-Up and Invested: and entirely Independent of the amount of Premiums received.

CHINA AGENCY FOR FIRE INSURANCE.

The undersigned having been appointed Agents in China for FIRE INSURANCE, are prepared to accept RISKS at *Shanghae.*

Particulars of Rates &c., will be given on application to

DIROM, GRAY & Co.
Agents at Shanghae.

ASIATIC MARINE INSURANCE OFFICE.

The undersigned are prepared to grant Policies on behalf of the above Office, payable in *London, Bombay, Calcutta, Singapore*, and *Hongkong.*

SMITH, KENNEDY & Co.,
Agents for Shanghae.

Shanghae, 12th June, 1851.

INSURANCES.

CHINA MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY OF BOSTON, U.S.A.

The undersigned have been appointed Agents in China for the above Company, and are prepared to accept MARINE RISKS to the extent of $50,000 in any one Ship. Losses payable in *China, Calcutta, Bombay, London*, and *U. S. America.*

RUSSELL & Co.

Shanghae, 13th March, 1854.

SUN MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK.

Cash Capital $1,000,000.

The undersigned have been appointed Agents in China for the above Office, and are prepared to take MARINE RISKS to the extent of $50,000 in each Ship, made payable in *China, Bombay, Calcutta, London*, and *New York.*

RUSSELL & Co.

Shanghae, August 24th, 1853.

COLONIAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.
HEAD OFFICE, 22, SAINT ANDREW SQUARE, EDINBURGH.

Board of Directors in Shanghae, China:

A. PERCEVAL, Esq., Merchant, *Chairman.*
Wm. HUTCHISON, Esq., Merchant.
H. C. R. MACDUFF, Esq., Merchant.

Medical Adviser:

JOHN IVOR MURRAY, Esq., *M.D.*

Agents:

MONCREIFF, GROVE & Co.

Division of Profits.

The PROFITS which have arisen on the Business of this Company since 1816 will be divided as at 25*th May*, 1854, and Parties Assuring on the Participating Scale before that date will be entitled to a Share in the Fund to be set apart for Division among the Assured.

Every information may be obtained on the application to the Agents of the Company in *Shanghae*, or at any of the Branch Offices or Agencies at Home or Abroad.

By order of the Directors,

WILL. THOS. THOMSON, *Actuary.*
HENRY J. WILLIAMS, *Secretary.*

Agents of the Company in Shanghae,
MONCREIFF, GROVE & Co.

MARINE ASSURANCE.

The undersigned are prepared to accept risks on behalf of the following Offices to the amounts indicated opposite each and payable in Hongkong, Canton, Calcutta, Bombay, and London.

	Sea Risk. Drs.	*Harbour Risk.* Drs.
Canton Insurance Office, ...	100,000	200,000
Triton Insurance Company, ...	70,000	100,000
Bombay Insurance Society, ...	40,000	50,000
Bengal Insurance Society, ...	40,000	12,000
Reliance Marine Insurance Office,	25,000	..

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
Agents in Shanghae.

Shanghae, 1st July, 1851.

ALLIANCE FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF LONDON.

The undersigned having been appointed Agents in China for the above COMPANY, are prepared to accept ASSURANCE at Shanghae, as under:—

1st. On Buildings of Brick or Stone, covered with Tiles, Slates, Metal, or other Incombustible Material, when such Buildings are isolated from all others,—*Rate of Premium, ¾ per cent per Annum.*

And on their Contents, *at the Rate of* 1 *per cent per Annum.*

ASSURANCES for 6 Months ¾, and for 3 Months ½, *of the Annual Rate will be charged.*

ASSURANCES, for the present, will be accepted to the extent of £7,000 only on one Risk.

A Building and its Contents taken together form one Risk. Thus the above Sum may be underwritten either on a Building alone, or the Contents alone; or, part on the Building, and part on the Contents.

No ASSURANCE is to be considered in force until the Premium be paid.

Amongst other advantages of the COMPANY, the ASSURED will be entitled to participated in the Profits after Five successive payments.

Parties applying for ASSURANCES will please send in full particulars of the Risk to be taken; any Deviation from which without the Consent of the COMPANY, will vitiate the POLICY.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
Agents in Shanghae.

Shanghae, 1st August, 1850.

THE ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.
Capital £2,000,000.

Trustees.

JOHN SHAW LEIGH, Esq.
R. B. B. H. BLUNDELL, Esq.

The undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to grant Policies against Fire on the usual terms to the extent of £10,000 on any one Building or on Merchandize Stored in any one Building.

G. C. SCHWABE & Co.

Shanghae, 9th June, 1849.

THE LONDON & ORIENTAL STEAM TRANSIT INSURANCE OFFICE.
(Established 1843.)

The undersigned are prepared to accept RISKS, (covered by protecting Policies at Lloyd's and the various London Insurance Companies,) by the PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL STEAMERS between *Shanghai, Canton and Hongkong, Amoy*, the *Straits, Ceylon*, the *Presidencies of India, Suez*, and *England.*

The interest in the protecting Policies is assigned to the Peninsular & Oriental Steam Navigation Company, for the purpose of their becoming the Medium of Payment in the event of loss.

For Rates of Premium and other Information, apply to

R. S. Walker, *Hongkong.*
M. Fischer, *Canton.*
E. Warden, *Shanghai.*
T. Marshall, *Singapore.*
A. Emerson, *Calcutta.*
Robert Franck, *Madras*, or
John Ritchie, *Bombay.*

JAMES HARTLEY & Co.

London, 24th December, 1851.

INSURANCES.

NOTICE.

The undersigned have been appointed Agents at *Shanghae* for the NEW YORK MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY and are now prepared to accept Marine Risks payable in *China, London*, or *New York.*

BULL, NYE & Co.

Shanghae, September 18th, 1853.

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE.

A FEW copies of the following Children's Books just received—

Catechisms; Cyclopedia; Story Books; Ditto in packages of six; Single Stories.

Also, Dictionary of Medicine.

Herald Office, 8th April, 1854.

EX-*GEELONG.*
JUST RECEIVED AND ON SALE BY THE UNDERSIGNED,

An INVOICE of STATIONERY consisting of,—

Account Books, Copying, Metallic, and Spelling Books; Plain, and Visiting Cards; Red, Black, and Blue Inks; Letter, Note, and Foolscap Paper; Envelopes of all Sizes; A large assortment of Inkstands, Sealing Wax, Wafers, &c., &c.

EDWARD HALL.

Shanghae, April 6th, 1854.

EX-*GEELONG.*
JUST RECEIVED AND ON SALE BY THE UNDERSIGNED,

A FINE assortment of Huntley & Palmer's Reading Biscuits, viz:—

Mixed, Queen's, Pic Nics, Cracknels, Coffee, and Ginger Biscuits. Seed, Lemon, and Currant Tunbridge Biscuits. Rich Arrowroot, Alberts, Desserts, Shrewsbury, Machine Ginger Nuts, and Ginger Wafer Biscuits.

ALSO,

A few prime York Hams, Sides of Bacon, and Cheeses.

EDWARD HALL.

Shanghae, April 6th, 1854.

FOR SALE.

A FISH-BOAT, and a NINGPO-BOAT—Both nearly new and well found in every respect. Apply on board the

SEA HORSE at *Woosung.*

March 24th, 1854.

ON SALE

A Small Assortment of HYDRO-ELECTRIC CHAINS at

P. F. RICHARDS & Co.'s

Shanghae, 17th March, 1854.

EX-*LOCKETT.*
JUST RECEIVED AND ON SALE BY THE UNDERSIGNED,

The following PRESERVED PROVISIONS from the well known House of Messrs. Gillons, Leith:—

In Tins—Finnan Haddocks, Mock Turtle Soup, Mulligatawny do., Soup and Boulli, Kidney Soup, Brown do., Roast Beef, Boiled do., Roast Veal, Fresh Salmon, Cod Fish, Minced Collops, Carrots Plain, Beef a la mode, Scotch Haggis, Grouse Soup, Vegetable do., Hare do., Hotch Potch, Ragout of Fowl, Ling Plain, Essence of Beef, Oysters in own Liquor, Beef Tea, Cod Roes, Lobsters, Stewed Rabbit, Turnips Plain, Roast Mutton, Boiled do., Stewed Veal, Parsnips Plain, Kippered Salmon, Cod Fish Plain, Turbot, and Cod Sounds.

ALSO,

Green Gage Jam, Yellow Gooseberry do., Red do. do., Marmalade, Black Currant Jam, Strawberry do., Raspberry do., Plum do., Damson do., Brambleberry do., and Apple do.

P. F. RICHARDS & Co.

Shanghae, February 2d, 1854.

JUST LANDED.

A SMALL (fresh) supply of KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES,—a Certain Remedy for Disorders of the *Pulmonary Organs.* Being free from every deleterious ingredient, they may be taken at all times, *by the most delicate female and by the youngest child.*

P. F. RICHARDS & Co.

FOR SALE.
AT THE GODOWNS OF THE UNDERSIGNED.

An Invoice of very Superior WINDOW GLASS in assorted sizes from 32½-inches by 21½-inches to 46-inches by 32.

SMITH, KING & Co.

Shanghae, January 4th, 1854.

FOR SALE.

SUPERIOR PALE SHERRY, PORT, CLARET, SAUTERNE and MADEIRA, from Henry Tatham & Co., London. Also, a few Hogsheads of fine DRAUGHT PORTER, from Whitbread & Co.

SMITH, KING & Co.

Shanghae, January 4th, 1854.

FOR SALE.

A QUANTITY of best English Sheet LEAD. Apply to

SMITH, KING & Co.

Shanghae, January 4th, 1854.

ON SALE.

SUPERIOR CLARET; & Pale SHERRY; from the Stock of Messrs. J. & C. White & Co., of London. Apply to

G. C. SCHWABE & Co.

FOR SALE.

ANCHORS, and CHAIN CABLES. Apply to

G. C. SCHWABE & Co.

HOUSES.

FOR LEASE OR SALE.

The HOUSE and GROUNDS, about Ten mow, lately occupied by William Hargreaves, Esq. Apply to

Wm. THORBURN.

Shanghai, 27th January, 1854.

MISCELLANEOUS.

F. KUPFERSCHMID,
From DOUGLAS LAPRAIK'S, *Hongkong,*

Begs most respectfully to inform the Residents and Visitors to Shanghai, that he intends Establishing himself as *Watch and Clockmaker*;—their kind support in his behalf is solicited, and he trusts by prompt attention and a perfect knowledge of his business to ensure their approbation.

A Superior Assortment of *Clocks, Watches, Chains, Rings, Musical Boxes, Jewellery, &c.*

Repairing and Cleaning *Chronometers*, also rating. A variety constantly on hand.

Residence the late "Billiard Club House."

Shanghai, March 8th, 1854.

GREAT HESSIAN STATE LOAN
OF THE GOVERNMENT OF HESSE,
Of 6,725,000 DOLLARS, to be reimbursed with DOLLARS 16,588,610
or £2,400,000 Sterling.

EXTRACT OF THE ELECTORAL EDICT.

This State Loan contracted in the Year 1845, by the Government of the Electorate of Hesse, and with the consent of the Chamber of Deputies, through the Banking House of Messrs. ROTHSCHILD and SONS, consists of 6,725 Series of 25 Bonds each, to be redeemed by 60 Distributions in such a manner that the received Capital of 6,725,000 Dollars will be repaid, with 16,588,610 Dollars, in the following 168,125 Dividends:—

14 of 40,000 Dollars.	60 of 4,000 Dollars
22 „ 36,000 „	60 „ 2,000 „
24 „ 32,000 „	120 „ 1,500 „
60 „ 8,000 „	180 „ 1,000 „

&c., &c., &c.

The smallest Prize is 55 Dollars.

ON THE 1st JUNE, 1854,

Will take place by Authority of the Government, the Eighteenth Drawing of Twenty Series, or Five Hundred Bonds of the above-mentioned Loan, which must gain in the Distribution of the 1st of July, 1854, Five Hundred Dividends, amounting to $88,875.

(Seven Dollars are equal to £1 Sterling.)

PRICE OF THE TICKETS FOR DISTRIBUTION:

One Ticket, ...£1 Sterling.

The Purchaser of a certain number of Tickets enjoys the following advantages, viz:—

Six Tickets, ...£ 5 Sterling.
Thirteen do.,............£10 do.
Thirty do.,............£20 do.
Sixty-five do., ...£40 do.
137 Tickets, ...£80 do.

Shares and prospectuses are to be had of the undersigned, who are now specially appointed for the sale of shares for home and foreign countries, and have given security sufficient to fulfil every engagement towards the shareholders.

The Prizes will be paid in the East Indies and China through an Established Bank.

J. A. SCHWARZSCHILD & SONS.
Bankers and Appointed Government Lottery Contractors, Frankfort-on-the-Maine.

☞ Apply, without delay, to Messrs. J. A. Schwarzschild & Sons, Bankers, Frankfort-on-the-Maine; or those who prefer it, may direct their letters and remittances to Messrs. A. Schwarzschild & Co., 26, Lombard-st., London.

GREAT HESSIAN STATE LOAN.

With reference to the terms of the above advertisement, intending purchasers are informed that remittance of monies for purchase of J. A. Schwarzschild & Co.'s Shares may be made through Mr. F. Algar, Colonial Agent, 11, Clement's Lane Lombard Street, London, who will in such cases protect the interests of Colonial Shareholders.

London, January 3rd, 1854.

[OFFICIAL ADVERTISEMENT.]

GREAT ELECTORAL HESSIAN STATE LOAN
Of 6,725,000 Dollars.

This LOAN is guaranteed by the Government and contracted by the eminent Banking House of Messrs. M. A. Von Rothschild & Sons, in Frankfort-on-the-Maine. The following capital Prizes must be gained:—

14 of 40,000 Dollars.	60 of 4,000 Dollars.
22 „ 36,000 „	60 „ 2,000 „
24 „ 32,000 „	120 „ 1,500 „
60 „ 8,000 „	180 „ 1,000 „

&c., &c., &c.

The smallest Prize is 55 Dollars.

The next Drawing will take place on the 1st June 1854.

The price of the Tickets is as follows:—

One Share........................for £ 1 Sterling.
Six Shares........................for £ 5 do.
Thirteen Shares ....for £10 do.
Thirty do. ....for £20 do.
Sixty-five do. ....for £40 do.
One hundred and Thirty-seven Shares for £80 do.

Remittances can be made in Bank Notes, Bills or Drafts on Europe, &c. Each Shareholder will receive, free of expense, the Prospectus with full Particulars; and after the Drawing, the List of the Successful Numbers, which will also be published in the leading Journals.

The Prizes obtained will be paid in Cash through an established Bank; or the winner can, if he chooses, draw the amount of the Prizes on Messrs. S. Stiebel & Co., the London Agents, by attaching the Prize Shares to the Bill of Exchange.

Tickets and Prospectuses are to be had of the undersigned, who are the only appointed Agents, and by whom all Shares must be signed.

MORIZ STIEBEL, SONS,
The Appointed Government Lottery Contractors,
Frankfort-on-the-Maine.

☞ Apply, without delay, to the Banking House, Moriz Stiebel, Sons, Frankfort-on-the-Maine, Germany; or those who prefer it can direct their Letters to the care of Messrs. S. Stiebel & Co., Merchants, No. 32, Nicholas Lane, Lombard Street, London.

P.S.—Remittances which arrive too late will be returned to the sender; or, if he prefers it, Shares for the following Distribution will be forwarded.

N.B.—The Prospectus of this Distribution can be inspected at the Office of this Paper.

Shanghae, March 4th, 1854.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

THE
North-China Herald.

SHANGHAI, SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 1854.

WEDNESDAY, *April 12th.*

WE anticipate our usual day of publication in order to give the latest intelligence by the *Lady Mary Wood*, which leaves this Port at daylight to-morrow morning: (Thursday.)

AFTER the stormy days of the 3d and 4th, we had a lull—which at first seemed treacherous, but as time wears on it gradually assumes the appearance of settled weather. During the first two or three days the Imperialists looked very like a swarm of ants disturbed from their nest, going hither and thither with troubled air. But on the morning of the 7th, they seemed to have taken good counsel, and accepting the past as *un fait accompli* to have turned their attention once more to the rebels. These having sallied out of the City and advanced nearly to the head-quarter camp by the Soochow-bridge in great force, with banners flying, sword, and spear, jingall and matchlock, to the number of several hundred—a somewhat motley legion but picturesque withal—they were driven back by the Imperialists who pressed on them to the ground of their recent conflict with us; when a very pretty fight followed, lasting about a couple of hours, in which neither party were very great sufferers, and both towards breakfast time retired—warned no doubt by the cravings of the inward man, that there is a time to eat as well as to fight. During the affair some of the skirmishers from both sides occasionally crossed the boundary within our lines when, either from the Americans or a small party of our Marines conveniently posted, they were most impartially warned off by a few shot. And this it appears the Insurgent Chief Lin-a-fu took in very good part, since he has issued a proclamation saying the imperialists are given to disguising themselves as men of the City, and crossing our ground where they have been shot, which he considers very right, and therefore he warns his own troops not to be found within the Foreign limits.

This serious return to the business before them of fighting the Rebels, we conceived to be of good augury as regarded further designs upon the Foreign settlement, and the consent of the Judge the following day to go with the Vice-Consul and mark out the ground further back, where new camps could be pitched without disadvantage to the besieging operations, gave further earnest of pacific intentions.

We also understand that yesterday the 11th some arrangement was entered into by the Taouiae with the Senior Naval Officer for the conditional release of his captured fleet and the Admiral Poh, who has been regarded as a hostage since the morning of the 4th. The Taouiae went on board accompanied by the Admiral, and an hour afterwards they both left with a salute of three guns; which must been much more gratifying to them than the sound of the howitzers bombarding the camp on that same day, the week preceding.

It is indeed in the interest of all very earnestly to be hoped, that no more such untoward collisions will take place. The last however was clearly not of our seeking; and if an undisciplined soldiery is let loose upon the Foreign community, there is but one thing to be done; which is to resist their violence with arms in our hands, and a firm purpose to make ourselves respected. There is no security to life or property in existing circumstances, if impunity once follows an unprovoked attack of the nature commenced on the 3rd. Of this, we are glad to find by the letters of the Community to the British and American Consuls, there is no doubt in the mind of any Foreigner located on the spot. And in this sense we may see in the events of last week, much cause for gratitude that we were permitted to receive and give, the warning required, not only to place ourselves and the whole settlement in a more defensible state, but to make the soldiery, or Keih's "vagrants," hesitate before they again brought the Foreigner down upon their camps. Some permanent advantage should indeed be the result of efforts so costly and painful; and this we trust will not fail us in the present circumstances. Already, thanks to the activity and forethought of our defenders, and the hearty goodwill with which all their requisitions are met by the Community, very worthily represented we may be permitted to say by the Committee of Co-operation;—the settlement hitherto so open and exposed is taking quite a different character, and not many days will pass before a dozen sentries will be able in communication with each other, throughout the night to make all access into the interior without notice, difficult, if not impossible. Whatever may be the immediate result of the military operations of the besiegers and besieged, there is little hope these defensive measures will be rendered superfluous for months—it may be for years to come. And looking to the prospects of an immediate declaration of war against Russia, and the consequent danger of the Port being left with a much diminished Naval force, it is the more essential that the property within our limits should be susceptible of easy defence and safeguard, by a reduced number of men. Our safety for a long period must indeed be mainly, if not altogether dependent, upon the success with which precautionary measures now in progress are carried out—*and maintained*, after the immediate alarm has subsided. The large influx of a Chinese population into the very heart of our settlement, will also require attention on the part of the Consular authorities. The adoption of some effective means of bringing them under control, and some responsibility for their good conduct, cannot with safety be omitted. If care be not taken *in time*, we may chance to find a worse enemy within our lines than without, and a more pregnant source of danger and disorder. We foresee many causes of anxiety, and much necessity for untiring vigilance and labour on the part of our Officials—but also much ground for trust, that neither will be wanting to make good the ground, which has now been taken up in self-defence.

We had understood that a proclamation to the inhabitants explanatory of the origin and true intent of the measures recently taken against the disorderly camps; to be issued by the Representatives of the three Treaty Powers, was about to appear. We have not however received any copy yet, and can only say that we think such a document, if drawn up with some regard to Chinese habits of thought, and addressed *to them especially*, in a plain and intelligible style, giving a clear and true statement of facts; will tend very materially to place Foreigners in the right, and give them the support of a moral adhesion on the part of the native population, which cannot fail to be advantageous.

We would only say in conclusion that the immediate danger seems to have passed—indeed there are not wanting grounds for a more positive assertion of this opinion—but it cannot be too frequently reiterated that our safety now, and to all appearance for a long time to come, must mainly rest upon the prudence and care with which every measure is taken calculated *to insure* that result. In a word we must be prepared for all accidents and contingencies. It is impossible to foresee in the present troubled state of affairs, here and elsewhere—what a day may bring forth. In the meantime the Community acting upon this conviction has taken the wiser part of leaving nothing to chance which they can avoid, and remembering that God helps those who help themselves, they have put their shoulders to the wheel, and with hearty goodwill seconded all the efforts of these whose business it more especially is, to put the settlement in a state of defence. A more perfect unanimity it is impossible to conceive, all national distinctions have merged in a common feeling—and while this spirit lives, we venture to predict there is no danger to which the Community will not be found equal.

WE have just received a file of *Peking Gazettes*, up to the 18th of March, the substance of which merely we can now give to our readers, reserving the details for a future opportunity. It appears from the reports of Tsang-kih-lin-sin and Shing-paou, that the imperialists have defeated the rebels on the 7th of March, and five following days, during which they say that they slaughtered thousands of the enemy, including officers of high rank, and captured great guns and matchlocks without number. The road was covered with their dead bodies for miles together. The farm-houses and villages in which the insurgents took shelter were successively stormed, and every soul found therein slaughtered. The strongest proof of the success of the imperialists is in the retrograde movement of the rebels; the latter having retreated, first to Hëen, and then to Fow-ching, both of them lying to the south-west and south of their former position, about fifty or sixty miles. By the last accounts the rebels still held Fow-ching, and were enabled to send out bodies of men from that city to aid their retreating comrades and to check the advancing imperialists, but, as it would appears from the *Gazette*, with very little success. The imperialists were in high spirits, their armies had woke up, as if from a long slumber, and were dealing out heavy blows on their dispirited enemies. The *Gazette* is full of orders of knighthood, and other honours heaped upon the successful generals, as well as notes of condolence in memory of the brave warriors who had fallen in this last effort to sustain a falling dynasty; from the number and rank of those which have fallen it would appear that the successes of the imperialists have been dearly purchased. Owing to the hasty glance with which we have been enabled to run over this file of *Gazettes*, we have not been able to learn what is doing in Gnan-hwuy, by the rebel band still on the south of the Yellow river. From all that we have seen, however, it is evident that if these latter do not speedily advance, the expectation that has been formed of the fall of the capital, through the instrumentality of that band of insurgents now in Pih-chihle, must be given up.

THE arrival of the clipper *Iona* has put us in possession of the missing mail of 24th January—its news has however been anticipated by the *Lady Mary Wood*.

THE *Iona* put into Fuchow, having sprung her mast and has arrived here without further accident.

IN our enumeration of casualties, given last week, the name of a meritorious young Officer was strangely overlooked; his name is Mr. Henry Thursby, midshipman in H. M. Brig *Grecian*; and his wound is stated as a severe contusion.

CHIX, *Left Generalissimo of the Ta-ming dynasty;*—

Issues orders in compliance with the following circumstances. At present the impish soldiers having commenced aggressions upon the English, which has led to the employment of military force, all our brethren are henceforth prohibited crossing the Yang-king Bridge, or going on the Race course; lest the impish soldiers, surreptitiously putting on our military uniform, and mixing with them, our brethren might be accidentally hit from the musketry or cannon, when repentance would be unavailing;—Therefore this is to give notice for the information of all the brethren, that from the time of issuing this, they must not idly stroll about at pleasure in the neighbourhood of the Yang-king Bridge and such places. If any incur the guilt of disobeying, they will be rigorously dealt with, without respect of persons. Let each respectfully comply without opposition to this special proclamation.

(1st day, 3rd month, 51st year of the cycle.)

THE *Peking Gazettes* in our present issue are part of a batch of former dates—referring to the "affairs of Gnan-hwuy and the Capital." The latter exhibit a strangely disorderly state of the Imperial army within the walls of the metropolis, and the extortion and robbery practised upon owners of public carts and carriers.

WE have much pleasure in publishing the letter of "AN IRREGULAR," which very modestly details the important share our American friends took in the attack on the entrenched camps on the 4th inst. To the coolness and skill of the Naval Officers of both services, supported by the proverbial courage of the sailors of both nations, must be attributed the successful event of the day. To the volunteers of each country the Community are also largely indebted, for the intrepidity with which they aided the regular troops and their coolness under fire was not a little remarkable for such newly raised and hitherto untried levies:—We sincerely trust however, that it may be many years before the services of the military, volunteers, or irregulars, will again be called upon to chastise an inroad upon the foreign settlement, and we hope the precautionary measures, now putting in operation, will secure the safety of the residents for the future against all comers likely to annoy the Foreign residents.

We should observe, that we fully intended to have given particulars of the feats of our co-residents the U. S. Citizens but we could not obtain reliable information in time for our last issue:—

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA HERALD."

MR. EDITOR,—I take the liberty of sending you a short statement of the part the American forces took in the late engagement, as your narrative of that event is not complete without it.

After the separation of the forces, Capt. Kelly's command proceeded to the left until the turn in the course was reached, when the *Plymouth's* field-piece and the two Volunteer howitzers were placed in position in front, and the force of marines and sailors drawn up behind them. We were now in front of the encampments, distant about 200 yards. The Imperial banners waved over the intrenched and battlemented wall but no other signs of life were visible.

Precisely at 4, the order was given, open fire, and the three guns threw their shells with precision into the camp, and immediately afterwards, we heard the report of the English gun and saw their shot bursting in and over the enclosures of the Imperialists.

The fire was continued from our guns about a quarter of an hour, when the men became very impatient to be led to the assault, fearing the English would get in first. Not a shot had been fired from the camp, and the shells had burst so closely within it, that it seemed impossible that the enemy could have remained. Captain Kelly, accordingly, ordered the advance and led by him, Lieut. Guest and Past Midshipman Haxton, the marines and Blue Jackets went forward at quick step, while the guns were ordered to keep close in the rear to cover the party from any assault from the left, where the Imperialists seemed in large force. Several of the Volunteers however, anxious to be foremost, left the howitzers and rushed to the front to share in the charge. The Yang-king-pang creek which crossed the front of the camps is fordable at low water, but unfortunately by a mis-calculation of tide, the fact that it was high water at the time was overlooked. When the party were 50 yards from the encampment, the Imperialists showed themselves above the breastwork and delivered a fire which would have down honor to European arms. One seaman fell dead and three others of the assailants were severely wounded, Mr. G. G. Gray the most so, as he was gallantly pushing on at the side of Captain Kelly. With a fire in front which could not be returned with effect and an impassable ditch to cross, the party had no resource but to fall back upon the field-piece and howitzers about 50 paces distant, which they did, keeping up a close fire of musketry. Lieut. Guest was then ordered to make a flank movement with the *Plymouth's* men and reach the camp under cover of the mounds on the left, while the howitzers fired grape from their position on the course which was still swept by the fire from the camp. As I stood by our gun, I saw Mr. Gray carried past, cheerful and smiling, though with a one pound ball through both legs and the left knee completely shattered. The shot fell all about, but the only person hit was Capt. Pearson of the ship *Rose Standish*, who received a ball in the face, while working the gun to which he was attached.

Lieut. Guest's party had now reached the mounds which commanded the camp, and their fire immediately put to flight the Imperialists, but being unable to cross the ditch, the camp could not be entered until reached by the English who having gallantly taken the position before them, fired that which we had attacked, without resistance.

Capt. Kelly now moved his command to the north end of the course, to hold in check any body which might advance from the Soochow camp and so cut off the return of the English, who were obliged to march the length of the Yang-king-pang, before they could regain the course. Our arrival was in good time, for we immediately descried the banners of a large party advancing to the path, by which Capt. O'Callaghan must retreat.

The English gun, farther up the course, and our three, opened fire and with such effect that they retreated without coming within musket-shot. The large shot from the war-junks in the creek now came whirring above our heads and one or two ploughed up the course near us, but only a few shot were fired, and the contest was over.

So far as so raw a recruit as myself could judge, the volunteers showed under fire the courage and composure of old soldiers, but we all conceived an especial admiration for the gold-banded gentry, as we saw the indifference with which Capt. Kelly and his officers walked about when the pattering upon the earth and the whistling in the air, showed that nearly every square foot had its bullet.

Capt. Kelly has since addressed the volunteers a complimentary note and they appreciated it the more, from their experience of his own gallantry.

AN IRREGULAR.

THE COMMITTEE OF CO-OPERATION circulate for general information the accompanying letters from H. B. M.'s Consul and the British Senior Naval Officer. Measures have been taken for carrying out with the utmost despatch the line of defensive works pointed out by the Naval Officers:—

(*No. 97.*)

BRITISH CONSULATE,
Shanghae, 8th April, 1854.

SIR,—In my interview with the Committee this morning I put you in possession of Captain O'Callaghan's views as to the critical position of the Foreign Settlement, and the impossibility of the *present mode* of defence being continued, since it not only disables the Ships-of-War, but is otherwise calculated to wear out a much larger force in a very short time. Nor indeed if it could be continued, is it considered *sufficient* by the Senior Officer.

Under these circumstances it only remains for the Community, unless they should deem it preferable to abandon the settlement, which is scarcely probable, to adopt the line of defence which I explained to you in detail; and to place whatever means may be found necessary, at the disposal of the Senior Naval Officer, to enable him to give effect to his plans and undertake, in concert with the Commander of the United States Naval Force, the charge of defending the position he is ready permanently to take up.

As the plan of defence consists in concentrating the force within a much smaller space than is at present occupied, and by closing up the numerous approaches into the heart of the Settlement, to render it secure, especially at night, by a few sentries, while the main body of the force at command is kept ready and fresh for any emergency, if attack should ever be attempted. It will be necessary at once to provide the workmen and materials required for building some twenty or thirty walls, more or less—six or seven feet high, across the numerous thoroughfares into the settlement at such points as the Senior Officer may indicate.

I have only to add that, were it not otherwise obvious how necessary measures of this nature are at the present moment, I should be prepared in the strongest manner to recommend, in reference to more remote contingencies, that this permanent line of defence should be made. And if the Committee find any one in the Settlement either objecting to the plan, or demurring at the expense it may entail upon individual members or Houses, I can only say that in my opinion they should, to be consistent, withdrew altogether from the place;—since it scarcely admits of a question, that if these facilities for defence are not afforded—no defence can or will be made, and without the protection of an efficient armed force neither life or property could be considered secure for a single night.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

RUTHERFORD ALCOCK,
H. B. M.'s Consul.

To WILLIAM HOGG, ESQ.,
Chairman of the Committee of Co-operation,
Shanghae.

H. M. SCREW-STR. "ENCOUNTER,"
Shanghae, 8th April, 1854.

SIR,—I think it my duty to inform you that I consider the Foreign Settlement in a critical position, on account of the recent collision with the Imperialists.

(2) The object you desired, viz: the removal of certain camps, has been effected, and I am now prepared to act *defensibly only.*

(3) The present mode that I have adopted for defence cannot be continued, for I neither consider it sufficient, nor can the officers and men bear the fatigue much longer.

(4) I must therefore request you will call upon the Community at large to afford me such assistance as I may require and adopt the line I have pointed out to you, which probably you will have the goodness to explain to them.—I have, &c.,

(Signed) G. O'CALLAGHAN,
Captain and Senior Officer.

RUTHERFORD ALCOCK, ESQ.,
H. B. M.'s Consul, Shanghae.

True Copy,
W. FITTOCK.

U. S. Sloop "PLYMOUTH,"
Shanghai, April 6th, 1854.

GENTLEMEN,—Permit me for myself and the officers of this ship, to return you our sincere thanks, for the confidence you reposed in us; in placing yourselves under my command on the afternoon of the 4th inst. And also for the able and gallant support I received from you on that day.—Your's very truly,

(Signed) JOHN KELLY,
Commander, U. S. N.

To the GENTLEMEN *composing*
the crews of the two "Howitzers."

SHANGHAE 12th *April,* 1854.

SIR,—With reference to the occurrences of the past week, during which our lives and properties have been placed in the most imminent jeopardy by the proceedings of the Imperialist forces and attendant rabble: we feel that this Community owe a debt of gratitude to Captain O'Callaghan, Commander the Hon. G. D. Keane and to the officers and men of H. B. M.'s Ships "Encounter" and "Grecian" for the prompt and decisive measures taken for the preservation of the settlement, which otherwise we feel assured would have been exposed to the unprovoked attacks, or even in the possession of, an undisciplined and uncontrollable soldiery.

We have therefore to request that you will convey to them our warmest thanks for their invaluable services, and our high appreciation of the zeal and ability with which those services were performed.

Whilst most deeply regretting the casualties and loss of life resulting from these hostile proceedings, we are at the same time fully convinced that the latter were absolutely necessary: and that any symptoms of hesitation or timid policy would inevitably have led to much more serious consequences and to far greater loss of life.

Our grateful acknowledgements are also due to you, and to H. B. M.'s Vice-Consul for the measures and services so judiciously rendered at this critical juncture.

As we cannot hope this danger will speedily pass, we trust confidently that such representations will be made by yourself and the Senior Naval Officer to H. B. M.'s Government as may lead them to devise further means for the permanent security of the settlement.—We have, the honor to be Sir, your most obedient humble servants,

WILLIAM HOGG, T. C. BEALE, EDW. CUNNINGHAM, J. SKINNER, } *Committee of Co-operation*
JOHN HOBSON, British Chaplain.
ALEX. PERCEVAL.
WILLIAM KAY.
JAMES DOW.
T. KIRK.
JAMES WITHINGTON.
D. POTTER.
WM. LOCKHART, of the Lon. Mis. So.
EDWARD WEBB.
JNO. THOS. BATT.
JOHN H. WINCH.
JOSEPH BLAND.
WILLIAM SHAW.
JNO. BOWMAN.
J. CALDECOTT SMITH.
NORMAN LACY.
W. HUTCHISON.
GEO. F. GREEN.
E. C. SMITH.
A. TILBY.
H. C. R. MACDUFF.
L. HELBLING.
ANDW. A. RANKEN.
WM. LENT.
J. SAUR.
P. LOUREIRO, Jr.
JAS. T. DAVIS.
E. J. S. LOUREIRO.
THOMAS J. BAKER.
H. M. M. GRAY.
R. B. ULLETT.
J. MACANDREW.
J. B. ROSS.
C. S. MATHESON.
W. M. NORTON.
V. P. JORDAN.
J. LOUREIRO.
F. J. S. LOUREIRO.
RUSSELL STURGIS, Jr.
CHAS. W. ORNE.
P. F. RICHARDS.
JAMES MACKENZIE.
DAVID MACKENZIE.
JAS. BOWMAN.
WM. F. REHDEN.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

THOS. MONCREIFF.
F. H. GROVE.
CHARLES JOHN KING.
CHARLES WATERS.
A. SANTOS.
T. F. SILLAR.
CHARLES H. HEAD.
D. O. KING.
THOMAS DUNN.
J. T. HUTTLESTON.
EDMUND WALLER.
RICHD. R. TYERS.
J. AUSTIN AMORY.
A. THORNE.
JAMES CRAMPTON.
WM. CRAMPTON.
CHAS. PULLAN.
THOMAS HANBURY.
THOS. CHRISTY, Jr.
WM. THORBURN.
JNO. L. MACLEAN.
W. SHEPARD WETMORE.
WM. G. PIERCE.
EDW. G. HEDGE.
ROBERT GODDARD.
A. FINCHAM.
FRED. BOOKER.
B. DALLAS.
ROB. O. MAJOR.
AR. JNO. YOUNG.
W. S. BROWN.
GEO. R. LYLE.
R. J. GILMAN.
WM. H. VACHER.
C. W. HUDSON.
CRAVEN WILSON.
W. MACKENZIE.
C. LENOX RICHARDSON.
J. F. H. TRAUTMANN.
JAMES CROSSLEY.
H. P. HANSSEN.
A. WRIGLEY.
ROBT. FRANCIS.
T. PYKE.
W. ENDICOTT.
C. A. FEARON.
L. MACANDREW.
JAMES L. MAN.
W. G. HOWELL.
E. M. SMITH.
H. SHEARMAN.
E. M. DE BUSSCHE.
M. GABRIEL.
NUN CHANDLER.
W. R. ADAMSON.
A. THOMSON.
W. H. MEDHURST, Sen.,
of the London Missionary Society.
EDW. LANGLEY.
JOHN C. LANGLEY.
J. WILKS, Jr.
WM. COMSTOCK, Jr.
FRANCIS FOSTER.
E. DEACON.

To Rutherford Alcock, Esq.,
H. B. M.'s Consul.

British Consulate,
Shanghae, 13th April, 1854.

Gentlemen,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th instant, conveying the warm thanks of the community to Captain O'Callaghan and the officers and men under his command, for the services rendered on the 3rd and 4th instant, in defence of the Foreign Settlement, and it will afford me great pleasure to be the medium of communication.

I am glad the active and efficient part taken by H. M.'s Vice-Consul Mr. Wade, in the transactions to which you refer, has been so well appreciated; since I can add very cordial testimony to the value of the services he has rendered throughout this anxious period.

My thanks I feel in return—and not only mine, but that of all the Authorities, both Civil and Naval, are not less due to the Community—and more especially to the Volunteers, British and American, without distinction, for the alacrity with which they hastened to identify themselves with those responsible for the steps taken on the evening of the 3rd instant, to repel the Chinese Soldiery from our ground; and the steady gallantry they displayed both on the 3rd and 4th inst., while actively engaged on the Field.

As regards myself, Gentlemen, I am always glad when my efforts faithfully to fulfil the duties of my office can be shown to your satisfaction, to have been productive of certain benefit to the interests in which you are so deeply concerned. The magnitude of these interests makes the office unavoidably one of much anxiety; but I trust, in the present instance, good has resulted; and if in the desire to attain it, I have not hesitated to accept a very grave responsibility, I have the satisfaction of reflecting that your safety and that of the whole Settlement, to all appearance were menaced, and only to be secured by the steps taken. I do not doubt therefore that H. M.'s Government will take these circumstances into consideration, and put the best construction upon the motives of an officer suddenly called upon to meet a great emergency. Your position has long been critical, and ample justification of the hostile character of our defensive measures, will I am satisfied be found in a simple reference to the facts.

The expression of your views, as to the full sense entertained by the whole Foreign Community of a common danger, and the means by which it could alone be averted; will no doubt be received with satisfaction by the Authorities at home; as affording materials for a correct judgment respecting the true position of affairs at the Port.

I will not fail to make known to the Chief Superintendent of Trade, the anxious desire you express for means to be taken calculated to give security of a more permanent character to the settlement. I think with you that the danger from which the Community has recently escaped is by no means of a transitory nature.—I have, &c.,

(Signed) RUTHERFORD ALCOCK,
H. B. M.'s Consul.

To William Hogg, Esq.,
and Others.

Shanghae, *12th April*, 1854.

Sir,—With reference to the occurrences of the past week, during which our lives and properties have been placed in the most imminent jeopardy by the proceedings of the Imperialist forces and attendant rabble—we feel that this Community owe a debt of gratitude to Capt. Kelly and the Officers and men of the U. S. Sloop *Plymouth*, for the prompt and decisive measures taken for the preservation of the settlement, which otherwise we feel assured would have been exposed to the unprovoked attacks, or even in the possession of, an undisciplined and uncontrollable soldiery.

We have therefore to request that you will convey to them our warmest thanks for their invaluable services, and our high appreciation of the zeal and ability with which those services were performed.

Whilst most deeply regretting the casualties and loss of life from these hostile proceedings, we are at the same time fully convinced, that the latter were absolutely necessary, and that any symptom of hesitation or timid policy would inevitably have led to much more serious consequences or to far greater loss of life.

Our grateful acknowledgements are also due to you for the measures and services so judiciously rendered at this critical juncture.

As we cannot hope this danger will speedily pass we trust confidently that such representations will be made by yourself and Captain Kelly to the U. S. Government as may lead them to devise further means for the permanent security of the settlement.—We have, the honor to be Sir, your most obedient humble servants,

WILLIAM HOGG, and Others.*

To R. C. Murphy, Esq.,
U. S. Consul.

* The same list of signatures is affixed to the letter to the U. S. Consul, which we of course do not reprint as it would occupy too much space.—Ed. *N.-C. Herald.*

U. S. Consulate,
Shanghai, April 12th, 1854.

Gentlemen,—Your letter of to-day requesting me to express your gratitude to the officers and men of the U. S. Sloop *Plymouth*, for the prompt and decisive measures taken by them for the preservation of the settlement, together with your kind acknowledgment of my humble efforts, has been received.

In reply I do assure you that nothing can give me greater pleasure than to be the source through which your approbation is expressed of the course pursued by the officers and men of the U. S. Sloop of war *Plymouth*, on the 3rd and 4th instant.

For the kind expressions of your appreciation of my humble efforts, I am grateful, and can only say that the discharge of my official duties to the satisfaction of those residing here, is not only most gratifying to me, but will be most satisfactory to the Government which I have the honor to represent.—I have the honor to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

R. C. MURPHY,
Consul, U. S. A.

To William Hogg, Esq.,
and Others.

U. S. Consulate,
Shanghai, April 12th, 1854.

To Captain Kelly,
U. S. Sloop-of-war *Plymouth*.

Sir,—Under date of to-day, I have been requested by the Citizens of Shanghai to convey to you, your Officers and men, their warmest thanks for your invaluable services and their high appreciation of the zeal and ability with which those services were performed, in preserving this settlement from an attempt made to possess it on the 3d and 4th inst., by undisciplined and uncontrolable soldiers. I am most happy in having the honour so to do, and will avail myself of this opportunity to add my unqualified approbation, also, very respectfully, your obedient,

R. C. MURPHY.

U. S. Sloop "Plymouth,"
Shanghai, April 12th, 1854.

Sir,—Your communication of this date, informing me, that you have been requested by the Citizens of Shanghai, to convey to myself, the Officers and crew of this Ship, their warmest thanks for services rendered on the 3rd and 4th instant, in preserving this settlement from an attempt made to possess it, has been received. It affords me great pleasure to know that the Citizens of Shanghai consider that we have performed our duty; and they may be assured that we shall always be ready and willing to protect them from any attack of the lawless bands who infest the vicinity of their settlement.—I am, Sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN KELLY,
Commander, U. S. N.

To R. C. Murphy, Esq.,
Consul, U. S. A.

PEKING GAZETTE.

Affairs in Gnan-hwuy.

The *Gazette* of the 21st of February contains a report from Shing-chaou, stating that after the fall of Loo-chow, the servant of Chang-wan-pin, one of the acting magistrates of that city, made his escape out of Loo-chow and reported that his master railed at the rebels and refused to submit, whereupon he was put to death. Shing-chaou goes on to state, that he has ascertained that the official seals of the lieutenant-governor and treasurer were both lost in the fall of the city; now the pecuniary affairs of the whole province must pass through the hands of the treasurer, and there are a vast number of documents which need to be verified by the treasurer's seal: it therefore becomes necessary to petition the emperor, to command the board of ceremonies speedily to manufacture a treasurer's seal, for the purpose of having the documents of that office properly authenticated. As to the other seals, belonging to the various officers in Loo-chow, it will merely be sufficient to wait till the new lieutenant-governor arrives at his post, to ascertain whether they are lost or not, and then petition to have the want supplied.

Affairs of the Capital.

The *Gazette* of the 24th of February contains a memorial from Ying-bwae, one of the censors, requesting that certain evils be remedied, in order to tranquillize the people, and encourage commerce. The memorialist thinks that when a country is disturbed, and troops are called in to quell it, it becomes necessary for the government to avail itself of the co-operation of the people, the obtaining of which altogether depends on the capability of the district magistrates, to manage things according to the customary regulations. They must not on any account allow a parcel of villainous police-runners to disturb and annoy the people. With respect to the carts necessary for transport, they must be all prepared in time, and regularly paid for when used: the officials must not be allowed to seize conveyances according to their own pleasure, and thus distress honest traders, who hearing of the circumstance will be afraid, and be unwilling to come to market with their wares: the people, also, being deprived of daily necessaries, will not be able to pay their accustomed duties to government, and thus immense injury be the result. Just as it happened in the month of October last, when there was an irregular seizure of camels, on which account the coal-carriers would not venture to approach the metropolis, and the price of fuel rose very high, and the Tartar community were very much distressed. When the censor E-k'hang brought the matter to the notice of the government, an imperial order was issued, to prohibit such irregular proceedings, after which people were enabled to pursue their accustomed avocations, the coal was brought in as before, and the price fell. The memorialist proceeds to state that he has recently heard that in the districts of Ta-hing and Yuen-ping, which are included within the metropolis, the arrangements were not so good as they ought to have been. In the last-named district the carts which were pressed into the public service were indeed paid for; but in the former the police-runners were allowed to go out in all directions and seize conveyances, and would only allow the owners of some to escape when well bribed for it: when the hire of others was given, it was never according to the usual scale; in consequence of which all the carmen in the neighbourhood of Peking did not venture to enter the city for trading purposes, lest they should be impressed into the public service. About the period of the winter solstice, the inhabitants of the various districts eastward of the capital from which rice is usually obtained, to the amount of upwards of a hundred cart-loads every day, preferred to dispose of their rice at the eastern dyke. Formerly there were brought to the capital tobacco, wine, pigs, and such like, but towards the close of the year the traders, hearing that soldiers and police-men were coming out of the city and impressing carts into their service, were afraid to come to Peking as usual; in consequence of which in the month of January provisions of every kind became scarce, and the prices rose to several times their former amount. The Tartar population were thereby very much distressed, and the taxes paid to the government became less and less every day. On a former occasion, when Tsae-ling led out a body of troops from the metropolis, the parties charged with procuring conveyances as usual began to impress carts in a disorderly manner. On the 14th and 15th of February, there was not a cart for the transport of goods to be seen in the markets and roads; and when a cart was seen conveying passengers, the passengers were pulled out of the carts with violence and ordered to walk. If by chance a conveyance was seen laden with goods they were thrown out in disorder on the road side, while the carts were seized for the public service without the least scruple. When any enquiry was made, as to the reason of all this, an answer was immediately furbished up, that the soldiers needed the conveyances for their baggage, and that without these it would be impossible for them to fulfil the duties required of them. These irregular proceedings being carried on under the emperor's eye, we may easily conceive that the carmen who came from a distance were subjected to still greater annoyances: if some prohibitory measures be not speedily adopted, how shall we be able to tranquillize the people and encourage commerce. The memorialist humbly suggests, that when any urgent necessity requires the service of these carmen, previous arrangements should be made, and orders given that the carts belonging the capital and its vicinity should be held in readiness, and when employed be paid for according to the usual rate: they should not be irregularly seized, nor deprived of their hire; still less should those carts be impressed which are actually employed in conveying goods for sale. Let a notice also be issued in the metropolis, stating that if any villainous policemen or blackguardly messengers should disturb peaceful citizens and deprive them of their just pay, it shall be permitted to the carmen to make a complaint, when summary punishment shall be inflicted, in which case the traders, hearing of this arrangement, will come forward with their wares as usual, the people will be tranquillized, and commerce encouraged.

The *Gazette* of the 26th of February contains a memorial from a member of the board of revenue, named Seen-paou, requesting that orders may be issued to the Tartar troops quartered in Peking, to be more careful in the discharge of their duties, and less annoying to the people. The memorialist deems that the said troops were stationed in the capital with the view of repressing disorders and tranquillizing the people, as well as for the purpose of detecting and punishing spies: on this account, last year the guard-houses of the Tartar city were put in repair, and in addition to the infantry usually quartered there, more soldiers were sent, to mount guard day and night. The present being a time when every caution is requisite, the memorialist says that he frequently goes out to inspect the soldiers in the different guard-houses, and found them at first tolerably in order. But recently by day the number of regular troops has sensibly diminished; and although three or four may be seen lounging about or lying down at the guard-house, they are not properly clothed and accoutred. The memorialist adds that he has heard that at night numbers are assembled there to gamble, which is indicative of great remissness in military discipline. On the 19th of February, the memorialist says that he was passing the corner of Filial-Piety-lane, where the Mung-koös, belonging to the blue banner were quartered, when he saw several persons come out of the guard-house, and drag down from his horse a person that was riding by, and pull him into the guard-room. The memorialist says that he thought at first it must have been some spy: but after a little while, he saw the soldiers bind the man with cords, and throwing him on the ground, proceed to bamboo him, under pretence that he had run against their weapon-stand and broken it; some of the soldiers wanted to send the man up to the magistrate's office, and others agreed to this suggestion. The next day, the memorialist says that he passed by the same place, and saw that neither the weapon-stand nor window nor door was broken; and on making enquiry in the proper quarter he found that the case had not been brought before the magistrate. On the evening of the same day, about eight o'clock, the memorialist says that he observed a number of people making a row in the above-named guard-room, and on enquiry he found that it originated in some of the soldiers having bought some cakes, the price of which was demanded by the cakeman, but no persons in the guard-room would acknowledge themselves to have been the purchasers. Whereupon they seized the cakeman and tied him up, while one of the soldiers pushed down a window-frame and declared that the cakeman had broken it. The man having earnestly declared that he had had no hand in it, he was after a considerable time liberated. The memorialist says that he has been an eye-witness to several cases of this kind, and there is no knowing how many irregular seizures and unredressed wrongs have been committed; but when such things take place under one banner, we may argue that the same is the case with all. The memorialist also says that he has heard, that when the city gates are opened of a morning, to let the sellers of vegetables come in, the soldiers at the gates are in the habit of demanding money before they will let the people enter. The two gates called Gnan-ting and Tih-shing* are more implicated in this affair than others. As a consequence of this extortion the price of garden-stuff in the city has been greatly increased. Now such remissness and irregularity leading to the annoyance of honest traders, the memorialist deems inconsistent with just measures of defence, and he requests the emperor to order the magistrate in the neighbourhood of the above-named banner to institute a strict enquiry as to what soldiers have been thus acting disorderly and have them severely punished; which may result in more suitable regulations for keeping watch and ward, and in tranquillizing the inhabitants of the various districts.

* Literally "Prevailing virtue."

DESCRIPTION OF LOOCHOO BY A NATIVE OF CHINA.

(Concluded from No. 189.)

Chapter 4.—*The Japan expedition—Loochooan temples and customs.*—The American Admiral has rented a house for a coal depôt at Po-chun, south-east of the San-yuen-kung. This is done that there may be a supply of coal for the steamers on their route to Japan next spring. When I first arrived at Loochoo in June there were many vessels at anchor. They soon left for Japan and in less than a month returned. Some then took their departure for Hongkong, others for Amoy, and one remained here. The latter soon paid a visit to the Bonin* islands. In less than two months two vessels returned and anchored here. Coal was then brought to be deposited on shore, and it was found necessary to use Loochooan craft as cargo boats. The magistrate of Napa was at first unwilling, but on being presented with a communication from the American Commodore he was obliged to submit. Three large and twelve small vessels were assigned for this service, and on Nov. 20th, the conveyance of the coal to its place of deposit was completed. The letter of the Commodore to the Napa authorities which I saw at their office, also stated that a vessel would continue at Loochoo. About this time it was in contemplation that one of the American vessels staying in the harbour should sail for Nanking. I was told by one of my countrymen on board, that on the first arrival of the fleet, it brought communications from England and France to present to the Japanese government. It was possible that next spring those nations might not be willing to lend their aid to the Americans. On this supposition it was thought advisable to secure the assistance of T'ae-p'ing-wang, which explained the intended visit to Nanking. I do not myself think that this story is worth much. For the power of that chief is too trifling to be of use in such a case as this. The following account of the first visit of the American fleet to Japan was given me by Ningpo men employed on board the ships.

The American Commodore Perry when he came in sight of Japan, and saw the junk heads shaped like the proboscis of an elephant, ordered the vessels of his fleet to anchor. After waiting four or five days, he sent on shore written communications from the three kingdoms. Soon a Japanese vessel arrived, bringing an officer wearing a large round cap, and robe marked with the symbols of Fuh-he. He wore no shoes. In his belt was a square headed sword. After its being announced that there was a communication for the officer in command, the bearer was invited on board when he presented a packet to Commodore Perry, inviting him to an entertainment to be given by the mandarins on shore. Next day that officer landed with three hundred men as his guard in full uniform and armed. A Japanese military mandarin of the title Tsung-jung met him with a guard of five or six hundred men armed with sharp swords. The entertainment proceeded and the Japanese officer then stated that at that time he could only perform the duties of hospitality to those come from afar, and that as state affairs could not be conferred upon at a wine feast, those who had accompanied him should be invited to go elsewhere to partake of the hospitalities that would be provided for them. The guards then retired. After the feast the Japanese officer presented to the Commodore a golden casket and stated to him the royal reply. He then returned. After a few days a messenger came with a communication from the palace agreeing to make a treaty of commerce in the coming spring. The Commodore then gave orders for the fleet to return to Loochoo.

The Tung-shan temple is on the south-east of Napa. It is in a retired and beautiful spot. The path is winding and narrow. Green firs and cypresses overarch the way. The temple is built in the hollow of a hill. Its door opens on a bay of the sea. On entering an empty court is seen. Stones of fantastic shapes are piled here by way of ornament. There are flowers and grasses in abundance of rare fragrance and elegance. A priest of the temple told me that the seeds of these flowers were presented by natives of Japan and Corea. The building in the interior is pretty but limited to a few rooms. The inscription over the entrance is *Luh-t'ecn-shin-ch'oo*, "The green retreat." All around are plantains spreading the shade of their leaves. Hence the name. Within the building are hung some passages of old poetry in the form of hand-writing called Pa-fun-shoo, (i. e. writing abbreviated to the extent of two parts in ten.) They had been presented to the priest in charge of the temple by Seu-paou-kwang, a mandarin sent here by the emperor K'ang-he. Not far off was another piece of caligraphy, written by a Han-lin collegian named Lin-hung-nien. There were also specimens by men of the early Ming dynasty celebrated for their hand-writing such as Wang-ngaou-tang. Thus it may be judged what an old and famous temple this must be. Heang-yung-kung was my companion when I visited it, and he pointed out to me all the curiosities of the place. He then begged of me some verses to be left there in praise of the beauty of the spot. I complied and entrusted two eight-line stanzas to the care of the resident priest which may serve as a quotation to future travellers.

The Shen-hing temple is on the north-west of Napa. It is retired like the temple just described, but it is far from approaching to rivalry with it in regard to its curiously shaped stones and the beauty of the evergreen avenues and groves of trees that surround that more favoured retreat. Within the building is a court with flowers and surrounded on the four sides with verandahs. They are convenient when guests of distinction are invited to a feast for their attendants to wait in. Whenever during past years the messengers of my country have come here, they have been lodged in this temple. Wang-wun-che and Chow-hwang among others have left scraps of writing behind them, to commemorate their visit, and reflect splendour on the building.

The Loochooans in their marriages do not use a third person to mediate between the families as we do. The intending bride and bride-groom when they see that they are suited to each other, secretly declare their wishes to their parents if they are living. The relatives are called on to assist at the wedding ceremonies, and there are no presents. The day being fixed by consent of the families, towards evening, the bride wraps her head with a large robe. Two or three female relations and neighbours accompany her. When she has arrived she worships Heaven and Earth with her husband. Then they perform the same act of reverence to each other. When this is done the bride gives to her husband's parents and kindred a respectful greeting. Then there is feasting for several hours.

The Loochooan ceremonies at funerals are also different from ours. Before the corpse is placed in the coffin, a small brass gong is struck for several successive hours, to notify to those in the neighbourhood, that funeral ceremonies are in preparation. The neighbours and relatives come to condole with the mourners. The coffin is small but long, like a picture box. The body being placed in it, it is conveyed to the grave, which is of stone and very durable. After 49 days the relatives meet at the grave and boil water in a large iron rice-pan in front of the tomb. This is called the "Bone washing." Afterwards the water is passed round in cups to the assembled company who all drink of it. This appears to me a very strange custom.

The Loochooans worship their tombs twice a year, the 5th of April (T'sing-ming) and the full moon of the 7th month. The women of each family carry large covered trays on their heads, and are seen coming from all parts to meet at the graves. They open the trays, fry their contents on the fire and place them before the tombs. They burn incense and make loud lamentations, but use no gilt paper, or any thing in imitation of money. This I suppose arises from the use of money being forbidden by the laws. Then literary men come bowing as they approach with slow steps to the tomb. They look on with an expression of sadness, and burn a few incense sticks at the grave side, holding them in their hands in a respectful attitude. Thus they sit with bent legs on the ground, their eyes closed for a short time while they sigh and meditate. On asking what this meant I was told that the eyes were shut to assist the memory in recalling the voice and features of the departed. Having gone at death to the regions of forgetfulness, the expression of grief should not be repressed. This is an instance of their adherence to the doctrine taught by the Great Sage, that "sacrifices should be offered to spirits as if they were present." Yet they carry it perhaps too far. I heard that among the Loochooans filial piety towards living parents is rare. Sons slight their fathers till they die. But how can the remembrance of relatives who are deceased be compared with a becoming treatment of them while living? To think of them for a few moments may serve as a slight token of filial regard and virtuous feeling, but it cannot be considered an equivalent for the conduct required in a consistent disciple of Confucius.

The streets in Loochoo are very narrow. When the people meet they make low bows to each other. The are extremely attentive to the laws of politeness. As the greatest act of respect, they knock their heads on the ground. The roads being narrow are obstructed by the performance of these acts of obeisance, and those behind kept a long time waiting. When little boys are met on the path, if there has been a slight acquaintance, the same thing occurs. Men and women walk together, but they must not give any thing to each other, nor even speak. Such are their ancestral customs, and it cannot be called in question that they are a polite nation as has been said of them.

The local magistrate has in his residence no secretaries or police-runners. Day by day he sits idle at home. If there is any business, he proceeds to the office where it is transacted. There he deliberates with one or two officers of the rank of Ta-foo. A few of the hereditary nobility assist. When they have done the business in hand they take their departure. There remain in the office only a few interpreters, who sit conversing on the floor. The people do not go to law with each other, so that there is nothing to do in the office all the year round.

As to the collection of taxes, the mandarins have no need to send special messengers to hasten the payment. The people all pay them of their own accord. This is good. Having such a compliant disposition, they may well be compared to the three dynasties of ancient China. The reason of this excellent state of affairs is that the people high and low are mutually respectful. Being mutually respectful there are no disputes. Not disputing with each other, the laws are kept and hence there are no lawsuits. It is to be lamented that this kingdom is so shut up in its narrow limits and incapable of expansion. From this cause the people have grown effiminate by having nothing to do. At the court there are no men of surpassing ability, who can rule the country both in quiet times, and when changes take place. Should calamities suddenly come upon them from without, from those who forget justice and generosity, who would there be to shield them? When I return to my home many thousand miles away, I must listen for all the intelligence I can obtain respecting them.

Loochoo sends tribute once in three years to China. The presents consist only of sulphur, white-copper, iron and tin. Sulphur comes from the adjacent islands, where it is collected at fixed times. Of the metals mentioned, none are of the first excellence, and much that is obtained here is greatly inferior to that produced in China. A few interpreters attend the ambassador, who proceeds to Fuh-keen and so to the Capital. When the ceremony of offering tribute is over, the ambassador and interpreters sometimes remain several years at Peking to study the written and spoken language of China. The interpreters thus obtain the metropolitan pronunciation.

There are no walled cities in Loochoo, nor any military mandarins. They have no spears, cannon or other instruments of war. The cause of this is that what they have had transmitted to them by their ancestors is a regard to justice, fidelity, and respectful manners. This is the method by which the country is so quietly governed and all turbulence prevented. Of military apparatus I saw and heard nothing. For several years past, the ships of war of many nations have come here, anchoring close by and firing cannon incessantly at night. The people though greatly alarmed have still relied on their national virtues, respectful manners, honesty and justice, and have thus prevented the early approach of misfortune. Should not the Loochooan people be prepared for what may happen?

Here the account closes abruptly. In adding a word of comment it may be observed that it says nothing of the influence exercised over Loochoo by its powerful northern neighbour Japan. In the Geography of Seu-ke-yu it is said, that its subjection of late to that kingdom, entails many painful restrictions. In the same work an author is quoted who gives an explanation of the name Lew-k'ew by which it is known to the Chinese. That author in his "History of Chung-san" (the central part of Loochoo in which the royal residence is situated) says that the island was discovered in the Suy dynasty A.D. 600. The shape of the island as seen against the sky was observed to be a flowing (lew) line like that of the dragon called K'ew. Hence the name. The character for this dragon was afterwards changed to that at present in use having the same sound.

In the same history of Chung-san it is said that Loochoo was conquered by the Japanese, who took the king captive. For very many years nothing was heard of him by the people. They wrote to ask the assistance of China, which was not granted. Afterwards the Japanese restored the king, and from that time the relations with China continued as before. Seu-ke-yu adds that by the trade with China the Loochooans obtain a little gain. The money they need for this is borrowed in Japan. The goods that are brought from China are taken almost all to Japan. Only a tenth or two tenths remain in Loochoo. The people are too poor to buy them.

* Bonin is the Japanese sound of the Chinese characters pronounced in mandarin *woo-jin*, *no men*, i.e. "the uninhabited islands." In the older Chinese dialects the sounds as written down early in the Christian era with the symbols of the Japanese syllabary are still preserved. The Fuh-keen people say *bo*, and those of central China *ngiu*, for the two characters in question. The former of these words is in Japanese writing some times read *mo*, and it is so pronounced in the Canton dialect. It is thus left uncertain which of these modes of spelling is to be taken as the more ancient Chinese national pronunciation of the character. Those who wrote the sounds must have followed the mandarin of the time, and this is an example of the manner in which that system of pronunciation, now rapidly disappearing, may be recovered.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.